



Public Education Partners
Great Ideas Grant Application
2008-2009 School Year

Aiken County's Local Education Foundation

Your name(s): _____

Your title: _____

Your school: _____

E-mail address (this is how we will contact you unless you specify otherwise):

Total cost of your project: _____

Amount you are requesting: _____

Grade level(s) impacted: _____

Number of students impacted: _____

Is this a start-up or expansion of a program? _____

Grant applications are reviewed anonymously. From this point forward, please **do not** mention persons or schools by name. Thank you.

Remember, do not mention the name of persons or schools in this section.

1. Please describe the program you want to implement or expand.
2. What group of students will participate or benefit? (Number of students, grade level, etc.)
3. How will you continue the program after this grant year?
4. How does the program support – but not duplicate – what your school is already doing?
5. What personnel will be used to implement? Are they trained? Do they support the project?
6. What do you expect to change, and how will you measure that change?
7. Please attach research that shows this program has been successful. (Website reference is also acceptable.)

8. Please provide a budget showing ALL resources for the program (matching funds, training and other grants, volunteer hours, etc.). Include the funds you are requesting. (Note: Deviations from approved budgets are allowed only upon request and as approved by the Executive Director.)
9. What month may we visit this project, if you are awarded a grant? (We visit every project.) May we take photographs?
10. Add anything else you would like the reviewers to know about your program.

Signature of Applicant

Signature of Principal

Dated: _____

NOTE: All applications must be received in the PEP office by 4 p.m. on Friday, February 29, 2008. Applications received after that time will not be reviewed by the Program Committee.

Approved for submission to Public Education Partners:

Area Superintendent



Public Education Partners Great Ideas Grant Guidelines 2008-2009 School Year

Aiken County's Local Education Foundation

Application Deadline and Submittal: February 29, 2008. Applications must be **received by 4 p.m.** in the office of Public Education Partners, 208F The Alley, Aiken, SC 29801. If you wish to submit by mail, please use our Post Office Box address: P.O. Box 3821, Aiken, SC 29802-3821. If you wish to submit via e-mail, the deadline is the same. Please use this address: publiced@bellsouth.net. Applications must be complete and signed by the building principal *and* the Area Superintendent in accordance with the wishes of the District Administration.

Background: Public Education Partners was established in 1995 to engage the community's support for quality public education with innovative programs and positive initiatives that create measurable improvement in our schools. Since that time, grants of more than \$625,000 have been made to Aiken County's schools, and Public Education Partners has helped schools attract many hundreds of thousands more in grants from other sources. The Board of Directors, made up of local business and community leaders who support a strong public education system, values the creativity and energy of our local teachers. We believe that we have much to learn about innovation and best practices in classrooms. For this reason, the Board invites you to tell us about programs and initiatives that you believe will make a difference for you and your students.

Purpose of the 2008-2009 Grants: Grants this year are meant to encourage innovation, that is, new programs, or to deepen and strengthen programs already in place. Often educators tell us that they have great ideas – if only they could implement them or extend them to more students. Here is your chance to fund your great ideas. Media specialists, teachers, counselors and administrators may apply. All public schools in Aiken County may submit up to three applications.

Amount of Grants: We encourage applications for any amount not to exceed \$500. We anticipate that we will not be able to fund all the grants requested, so please keep your request as small as possible to help us reach as many schools as we can.

In reviewing grants, the Board tends to favor programs that:

- require students to take responsibility and initiative for their own learning and improvement
- change student attitudes toward learning success
- are self-sustaining after the grant year
- impact significant numbers of students
- support but do not duplicate existing initiatives
- are fully endorsed by the personnel who will be implementing the programs
- allow students to experience success
- have matching funds or in-kind support, including parent or volunteer involvement

Restrictions: The maximum amount awarded per grant will be \$500. Funds may not be used to pay salary or benefits of school personnel. Funds *may* be used for stipends to support curriculum planning or alignment with standards on a grade level or school-wide project.

Notification of Decision: Awards will be made by May 9, 2008, and you will be notified of the final decision of the review committee via e-mail. If you wish to be contacted by another method, please indicate this on your application cover sheet and provide alternative information.

Evaluation: If your application is approved by the Board, you will be provided with an evaluation form based on the parameters you describe in your application. All project evaluation forms are due by July 1, 2009. All grant recipients are required to attend the Investors' Reception on the first Wednesday of September, 2009.

Questions or Comments: Please do not hesitate to ask any questions or submit comments about the application form or guidelines. Contact Diane Mangiante, Executive Director, at 649-9040 or by e-mail at publiced@bellsouth.net.